

CHURCH VIEW GIVEN BY MERRY DEL VAL

Papal Secretary of State Regrets Incident.

SITUATION FULLY EXPLAINED

Fear that Col. Roosevelt Might Address Methodists Was Cause for Request that He Abide by Wishes of Vatican—No Attempt to Dictate Places He Should Visit.

Rome, April 4.—Cardinal Merry del Val, papal secretary of state, received four representative to-day for the purpose of granting a special interview on the circumstances surrounding the failure of Col. Roosevelt to meet the Pope.

His eminence began by saying: "This is the situation: The Methodists here in Rome strive by every means to conduct a campaign of venomous hostilities against the holy father by lies and slanders. Here at this very door, in this his own episcopal city, they harbor alien priests. Moreover, they openly sympathize with and aid his enemies. They also advocate and strive to put into effect the principle enunciated by Borgia at the foot of the statue of Giordano Bruno, the postate priest, when he said, 'We have stripped the Pope of his temporal power, and we will never rest till we strip him of his spiritual power also.'"

"When President Roosevelt expressed a wish to see the Pope," the cardinal continued, "it was feared he did not know the situation as I have described it. As a consequence, he was advised in a friendly way, and the hope was expressed that the audience would not be prevented by any incident similar to that which prevented the interview between Mr. Fairbanks and the Pope. No condition was imposed, but the same procedure was adopted when audiences with the Pope are arranged."

Examples Are Quoted.

His eminence quoted as examples the audiences granted the Emperor of Germany, King Edward of England and other sovereigns. The cardinal then proceeded: "When audiences are arranged, the Vatican authorities naturally suggest beforehand, in a friendly way, the things that are to be done. This interchange of messages was preliminary, and was naturally considered in the Vatican as confidential, not for the Vatican's sake, but for that of Mr. Roosevelt himself, in order that he might be left free and unembarrassed on his arrival in Rome. Actually no application for an audience was made, but Mr. Roosevelt's wish to see the Pope was conveyed to the Vatican. This and other communications with the Vatican were not intended for publication. I saw Mr. O'Loughlin, who presented a letter from Mr. Falconio at Washington, which said that it was his desire that I see Mr. O'Loughlin merely in the capacity of one of Mr. Roosevelt's traveling companions. Mr. O'Loughlin told me that he did not represent Mr. Roosevelt and then I asked what he was here for. Mr. O'Loughlin said: 'To see if I cannot arrange matters.'"

"He could settle difficulties," he said. "He assured me that if the telegrams that had passed were withdrawn, Mr. Roosevelt would see the Pope and all the difficulties would be at an end. This it seemed to me showed that Mr. O'Loughlin was really in a position to arrange matters. Accordingly I replied: 'That is impossible.'"

"Mr. O'Loughlin's contention was that Mr. Roosevelt was at liberty to go where he liked and do what he pleased after the audience. My reply was: 'After or before makes no difference. It is not a question of religion. Mr. Roosevelt can go to his own or to any Protestant church in the city of Rome, and while there deliver an address if he chooses to do so. Then if he pleases he may drive direct from that church and be received by the holy father.' I added, however, that it would be more tactful if Mr. Roosevelt would first drive to his hotel and there wait a few minutes before starting out for the audience."

"But," I said, "I do not know the Methodists in this place (I do not know about the Methodists in other places, and to them I do not refer), but those in this place are particularly offensive to his holiness, because they conduct a campaign of villainous calumny against the holy see. Therefore to go before or after the audience with the Pope and with the full knowledge that it would be offensive would be equally objectionable to the holy father."

"Continuing, I said to Mr. O'Loughlin: 'All I ask is this: "Can you assure me that Mr. Roosevelt will do facts not go to the Methodistists, thus leaving aside the question of what he may consider to be his rights in the matter?"'

"No Assurance Possible." Mr. O'Loughlin replied I cannot give any assurance. On the contrary my opinion is that Mr. Roosevelt is just the kind of a man to go, although he has as yet made no engagement. I replied: 'Mr. Roosevelt is entirely free to go where he pleases, but the holy father is certainly free to refuse to receive any one who reserves the right, willingly, to offend him.'"

"His eminence then gave examples to illustrate the Vatican's point of view in the matter. Suppose, he suggested that Mr. Roosevelt were to go to Berlin. He certainly would not go to Polish clubs if it were pointed out to him in a diplomatic way that such action would be offensive to the Kaiser. This before or after being received by his majesty. Another example he gave Mr. O'Loughlin, to quote his words, was as follows: 'You are free to take off your coat when you visit me, and you may sit in your shirt sleeves now if you desire, but if you were to do so I would certainly not receive you again.'"

"Concluding my talk with Mr. O'Loughlin," continued the cardinal, "I said in substance: 'If I or any prelate from the Vatican went to America, we should consider ourselves obliged to conform to the laws and customs of that country. If I wished an audience at the White House I should feel obliged to inquire about the etiquette to be observed. I would naturally be anxious, if only as a matter of

A Spring Tonic.

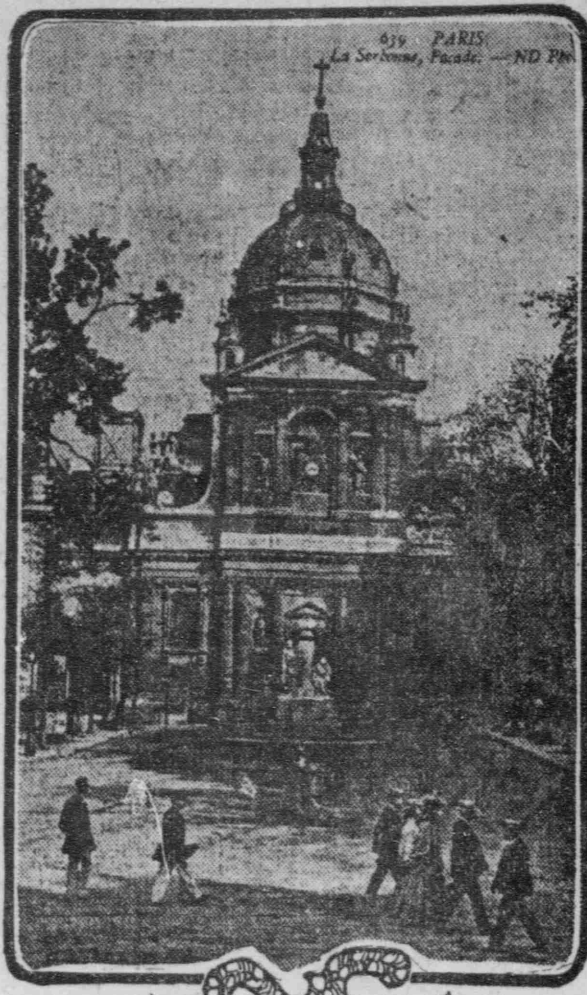
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WHERE ROOSEVELT WILL LECTURE.



THE SORBONNE IN PARIS.

delicacy, to abstain from any act that might be interpreted as offensive. The holy father expects the same from all who desire to see him."

This ended the statement of his eminence.

BOTH SIDES AT FAULT, SAYS CORRESPONDENT.

London, April 5.—The English press is giving an unusual amount of space to the incident which led to the breaking off of Col. Roosevelt's plan to see the Pope.

The Rome correspondent of the Morning Post says that to unbiased observers there seems to be fault on both sides. The quarrel, he adds, was due to an excessive amour propre on both sides.

He adds that what has made the incident particularly unpleasant in the eyes of the Vatican authorities is that Col. Roosevelt, without notice, communicated the whole correspondence to the press.

He goes on to say: "It must be admitted that a number of the clerics here condemn Cardinal Merry del Val's action as tactless and as calculated to offend American Catholics. Col. Roosevelt has for a long time been looked on askance at the Vatican because of his advocacy of Archbishop Ireland's claims to the red hat."

The Rome dispatches to the Daily News confirm the statements as to the soreness of the clerics over the publication by Col. Roosevelt of the correspondence which passed between him and the Vatican.

There is an undercurrent of professed belief that the former President purposely posed as the victim of alleged Vatican intolerance.

Some of the London press refrain from commenting editorially on the Vatican-Roosevelt incident. The Daily Graphic, however, makes the incident the occasion to indulge in some criticism of the colonel himself. It says that there is nothing of the Cincinnati about Roosevelt. To him, apparently, the Presidency of the United States is not the culmination of a career, but a passport to wider horizons. It adds: "America has already resounded with his post-presidential exploits, and he has now arrived in Europe to receive our trembling homage and to stir up our sleepy life. His debut has been characteristically explosive."

After a brief reference to the quarrel with the Pope, all the facts of which the paper seems to think have not been published, the editorial continues:

"One thing, however, is certain, and that is that Col. Roosevelt has indicated the footing on which he conceives he has the right to be received by us. Talk of a private gentleman! That obviously is not the way Theodore Roosevelt pictures himself. He has taught Plus X his place, and by that dramatic precedent the application of protocols to the other European courts will have to be regulated."

Roosevelt Stand Supported.

Philadelphia, April 4.—Methodist Episcopal ministers, at their meeting to-day, passed the resolution, in which former President Roosevelt is commended for his action in declining to visit the Pope under certain restrictions:

"The Methodist Episcopal Church has stood for religious toleration in America. It accords to the members of the Roman Catholic Church the same rights and freedom we ask for ourselves. We also demand that in countries in which the Vatican presumes to have control we shall have equal religious liberty."

"We take it as a matter of course and also as a matter of gratification that former President Roosevelt has declined to visit the Vatican at the expense of those principles which are fundamental to our American institutions."

Will Make Excursions.

Copenhagen, April 4.—Vice Admiral Richelleu, president of the United Steamship Company, has telegraphed to Col. Roosevelt placing at his disposal the finest steamer of the line for the ex-President's Scandinavian trips. Richelleu, who is an old and close friend of Roosevelt, has also arranged for excursions to various Danish farms and dairies which the visitor has expressed a wish to see.

A committee including two former presidents of the Rigsdag and a number of the most prominent citizens of Denmark have joined in a request to Col. Roosevelt to deliver a public lecture here. He will be their guest at a banquet.

Commend Col. Roosevelt.

Baltimore, Md., April 4.—The annual conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in session at Harlem Park Church, to-day, by a rising vote, passed resolutions commending former President Roosevelt, and with the indorsement of Col. Roosevelt it coupled one of former Vice President Fairbanks.

Largest Morning Circulation.

CARDINAL CONFERS WITH PRESIDENT

Catholic Dignitary Evades Query on Rome Incident.

DIPLOMATS DISCUSS SITUATION

Archbishop Falconio Upholds Pontiff's Action—Says Question Involved Was Dignity, Not Religion. Protestant Clergymen Rap Vatican and Laud Roosevelt.

Cardinal Gibbons called at the State Department yesterday and had a talk with Secretary Knox. A little later Mr. Knox called at the White House executive offices and conferred with President Taft. Secretary Knox had hardly left the White House when Cardinal Gibbons and Rev. Father Russell, rector of St. Patrick's, arrived and were shown into President Taft's office.

Conference Arouses Interest.

This visit of the highest dignitary of the Catholic Church in this country, following so soon after the Roosevelt incident in Rome, aroused a deal of interest. At the State Department, however, it was said that Cardinal Gibbons' conference with Secretary Knox had absolutely nothing to do with the recent events in Rome, and that Mr. Roosevelt's name was not mentioned.

It is said that the meeting had only to do with departmental affairs.

At the White House it was also said Cardinal Gibbons' visit had nothing to do with Mr. Roosevelt's cancellation of his appointment at the Vatican. It was said that Cardinal Gibbons had made his appointment with President Taft a week ago. Even that date, however, was after Mr. Roosevelt had sent his final message to Ambassador Leishman announcing his decision not to attend the audience at the Vatican under the proposed restrictions.

President Is in Fine Health.

As the cardinal was leaving the Executive offices, he stopped to chat for a minute or two with the correspondents. He was asked if he would make any comment on the incident in Rome.

"No," said he; "that's too delicate a matter to talk about."

As the cardinal was stepping into his taxicab, one of the newspaper men asked if the President had referred to the incident.

"The President," said Cardinal Gibbons, raising his hat and bowing, "is in excellent health."

Archbishop Falconio, papal delegate to the United States, had this to say: "So far I have received no communication from Rome, and know only what appears in the public press. It is certain the Pope has the highest esteem for Col. Roosevelt, both as a private individual and as former President of the United States; also that he was looking forward with pleasure to meeting him."

Insisting Methodist Agitation.

"In the case of Col. Roosevelt, as in that of Mr. Fairbanks, it was not at all a question of religion, but of the self-respect and dignity of the Apostolic See. Col. Roosevelt could have gone to any other Protestant churches in Rome, and even, as would have appeared from reports, to the Methodist, after his reception by the Pope."

"After all that has been said, it is unnecessary to insist that their insulting agitation and offensive proselytism constitute a real warfare against the holy father and the Catholic religion, and that in the very heart of his ancient and venerable seat. It must be remembered that the holy father considers himself as sovereign ruler, and as such is recognized by other nations."

"Besides, as the head of at least 250,000,000 Catholics, he has a right to special consideration, and ought himself to be the best judge of what that means. Every government has its etiquette, or rules, to protect the office and position of its ruler."

The circumstance that in Rome the Methodists have organized themselves as an anti-Vatican party makes it impossible for the holy father to recognize them in any way, much less to strengthen them in the eyes of the Catholics of Italy.

"It is extremely unpleasant, to say the least, that this violent agitation should have become public on the occasion of the visit to Rome of distinguished American citizens."

Catholics Will Admire Roosevelt.

It is thought here that if the Pope had had any communication to make to the State Department in reference to the Roosevelt incident it would have come through Archbishop Falconio.

Rev. Father Fleming, vice president of Georgetown University, thought that all Catholics will admire the same and sensible view of the situation taken by Mr. Roosevelt.

"Of course," said he, "every politician will try to make capital out of it. The truth is, however, that there is not a Catholic in America who will not admire President Roosevelt for the clever way in which he has acted in regard to this matter. The fact that he succeeded in keeping the incident out of the newspapers until he made a full statement showed that he is a wise and far-seeing man. Of course, Mr. Roosevelt is now a private citizen. Even had he been a representative of the American nation and had certain conditions imposed on his audience with the Pope, it would have been nothing more than has happened in the case of rulers of other countries."

Several Catholics expressed the opinion that the situation might result in a better understanding on some things between the Catholics of this country and the Catholics of Europe.

Will Describe Halley's Comet.

A stereopticon lecture on Halley's comet will be given by L. Adolph Richards, M. A., M. S., in the gymnasium of the Y. W. C. A., Twelfth and F streets, tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock. The programme will include a number of musical selections.

Washington Man Promoted.

J. S. Wiley, who up to two years ago was auditor of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company and had a wide circle of acquaintances and friends here, has just been elected assistant controller of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, with headquarters in New York City.

Apoplexy Causes Death.

A certificate of death from natural causes has been issued in the case of George J. Fritsch, fifty-nine years old, an invalid for years, who fell down a flight of stairs at the home of his daughter, Mrs. William E. Pauton, Jr., 1108 Monroe street northwest, after he was stricken with apoplexy. He died shortly after being removed to Garfield Hospital yesterday morning.

Storks Rush in Where Eagles and Double Eagles Used to Tread.

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SAME RATE of interest paid on both large and small accounts.

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An actual and legitimate reduction in prices of over 1,000 suits, comprising every fabric, style, and color of the season, including regular sizes, misses' sizes, and sizes for stout women.

\$22.50 and \$25 suits, \$15

—serges and variety of fancy fabrics.

\$30 and \$35 suits, \$19.95

—checks, black and white stripes and imported fabrics, in every color.

\$40 suits to go at \$25

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\$30 Rajah suits, \$19.95

—all silk lined, and in navy, natural, black, gray, copenhagen, russet, &c.

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between the Catholics of this country and the Catholics of Europe.

Protestant clergymen of Washington, particularly the Methodists, are inclined to criticize the Vatican harshly.

The general impression among politicians in Washington was that Col. Roosevelt's popularity would not suffer any among Catholics from the incident.

Those who held this opinion pointed to the liberal view of the incident that is being taken by some Catholic clergymen.

Diplomats in Washington were exceedingly interested in the form of the notes exchanged between the Vatican and the American Embassy and between the embassy and Col. Roosevelt in regard to the proposed audience. It was pointed out that the embassy had taken obvious precautions to avoid giving the correspondence any official status.

Instead of communicating directly with the Vatican, the American Ambassador, it was noted, had dealt entirely with Mr. Kennedy, of the American College in Rome, who has no official relation with the Vatican. Also, in the communication that Ambassador Leishman sent to Mr. Roosevelt, on March 23, it was expressly set forth that the embassy had merely been asked to transmit the communication from Bishop Kennedy, in which it was represented that the holy father would be delighted to grant an audience to Mr. Roosevelt, but expressed the hope that nothing would arise to prevent it, such as the much regretted incident which made the reception of Mr. Fairbanks impossible.

To the eyes of diplomats it is apparent that the American Embassy took every precaution to avoid giving the Roosevelt visit even a tinge of official character.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Joseph S. Reiff, 35, and Charlotte A. Miller, 19, of Baltimore, Md. Rev. J. B. McLaughlin.
August Orpel, 23, of Cleveland, Ohio, and Audrey P. Harding, 21, of Loudon County, Va. Rev. J. B. McLaughlin.
Edward G. Reagle, 21, and Bertha G. Peer, 18, Rev. A. H. Milan.
Arthur W. Karkness, 23, and Beulah E. Daltell, 23, Rev. J. Henry Durham.
William G. Frigh, 30, and Caro de R. Sandburg, 22, both of Baltimore, Md. Rev. J. H. Taylor.
Lemuel O. Fletcher, 44, and Edna A. Pettit, 46, Rev. F. W. Johnson.
Thomas C. Thompson, 44, and Agnes V. Purvis, 20, both of Howard, Va. Rev. J. B. McLaughlin.
Abdon Crucet, 23, and Rosemond Pinnas, 20, Rev. J. B. McLaughlin.
Frank S. Schlemm, 27, and Amy A. Carter, 21, Rev. W. G. Davenport.
Both of Richmond, Va. Rev. T. E. McDuffie.
Jacob Cohen, 21, and Lora M. Funk, 19, both of Baltimore, Md. Rev. L. E. Keeler.
Harry C. Holloway, 30, of Stockley, Del., and Anna F. Rist, 30, of Baltimore, Md. Rev. D. C. MacLeod.
Joseph W. Meredith, 22, and Rosa Dietrich, 20, both of Richmond, Va. Rev. T. E. McDuffie.
Robert Schillfuer, 22, of Bayonne, N. J., and Laura E. Lano, 23, of Easton, Pa. Rev. B. P. Williams.
Samuel B. Chestnut, 21, of Philadelphia, Pa., and Anna M. Michels, 21, of Newark, N. J. Rev. B. P. Williams.
John W. Preston, 25, of Dendron, Va., and Biedie M. Marnard, 25, of Anchor, Va. Rev. J. B. McLaughlin.

COLORED.

Simon West, 36, and Nannie Young, 32, Rev. Joseph Matthews.
William Bettie, 36, and Carrie Carey, 22, Rev. John Richard.
Robert Nickerson, 23, and Priscilla Bolden, 23, Rev. Thomas H. Brooke.

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GAS COMPANY CRITICISED.

North Washington Speaker Favors District Ownership.

The Washington Gaslight Company came in for considerable criticism last night at a meeting of the North Washington Citizens' Association, when the secretary read a resolution adopted by the Takoma Park Association, asking Congress to take immediate steps toward placing the corporation under control of the District government.

L. J. Mathews said that he had given municipal government much study and that he was of the opinion that public ownership of the gas light service was needed. "I have stopped at hotels where the plan was to pay for what you get, but the Washington Gaslight Company seems to have reversed this plan, by asking the citizens to pay for what they do not get." After several spirited remarks by different members it was decided to refer the matter to the committee on streets and lights, with instructions to report at next meeting.

MEDALS FOR TWO HEROES.

Pacific Coast Water Tenders to Be Rewarded for Saving Boat.

The Navy Department will reward R. E. Bonney, chief water tender, and E. A. Clary, water tender, with suitable medals and a gratuity of \$100 for their extraordinary heroism in the rescue of comrades and the prevention of serious damage to the torpedo-boat destroyer Hopkins off the California coast February 14 last, at the risk of their own lives.

As it is not practical to send the men to Washington, the medals will be awarded by the fleet commander of the Pacific torpedo fleet.

WAR TALES RECOUNTED.

District Veterans of Cuban Campaign at Annual Banquet.

Spanish war tales and reminiscences of the campaign in Cuba were told at the annual reunion and banquet of the District Branch of the Society of the Army of Santiago, at the New Willard last night. Thirty members of the society attended and exchanged stories of life on the fighting line.

According to the programme, there was no formal speaking, the members merely gathering together to talk over old times among themselves. Those present were: Col. J. T. Kirkman, Gen. George H. Harries, Lieut. Gen. John C. Bates, Lieut. Col. Smiley, Lieut. G. E. Shaw, Maj. Gen. S. S. Summer, Brig. Gen. H. M. Bell, Brig. Gen. Tasker H. Bliss, Maj. Frank Wheaton, Lieut. Col. W. D. Beach, Maj. W. E. Horton, Capt. F. L. Graham, Maj. D. H. Boughton, Maj. P. Smith, Maj. F. S. Hodson, Capt. C. V. Sayer, Maj. C. Fred Cook, Capt. Thomas S. King, Lieut. J. D. Carmody, Maj. L. W. Herron, Arthur Buell, Judge Robert T. Haigh, B. P. Rickenback, A. Heitmueller, Jr., and John Lewis Smith.

Many Feet.

From the Springfield Homestead. The disappointed preacher—The members of my congregation must think I'm a centipede.

His wife—How so?

The disappointed preacher—They gave me twenty-two pairs of slippers at Christmas.

For Future Use.

Cop—What's the trouble here?

Pugnacious Individual—That man gave me the lie.

Cop—Well, you can't block up the sidewalk with it. Take it home and use it the next time you go fishin'.

Little Progress in Insurance Case.

New York, April 4.—An effort to find out where a payment of \$5,000 was made by the New York Board of Fire Underwriters after the legislative session of 1909-10 occupied the entire time of Supt. Hotchkiss at the insurance hearing to-day.

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